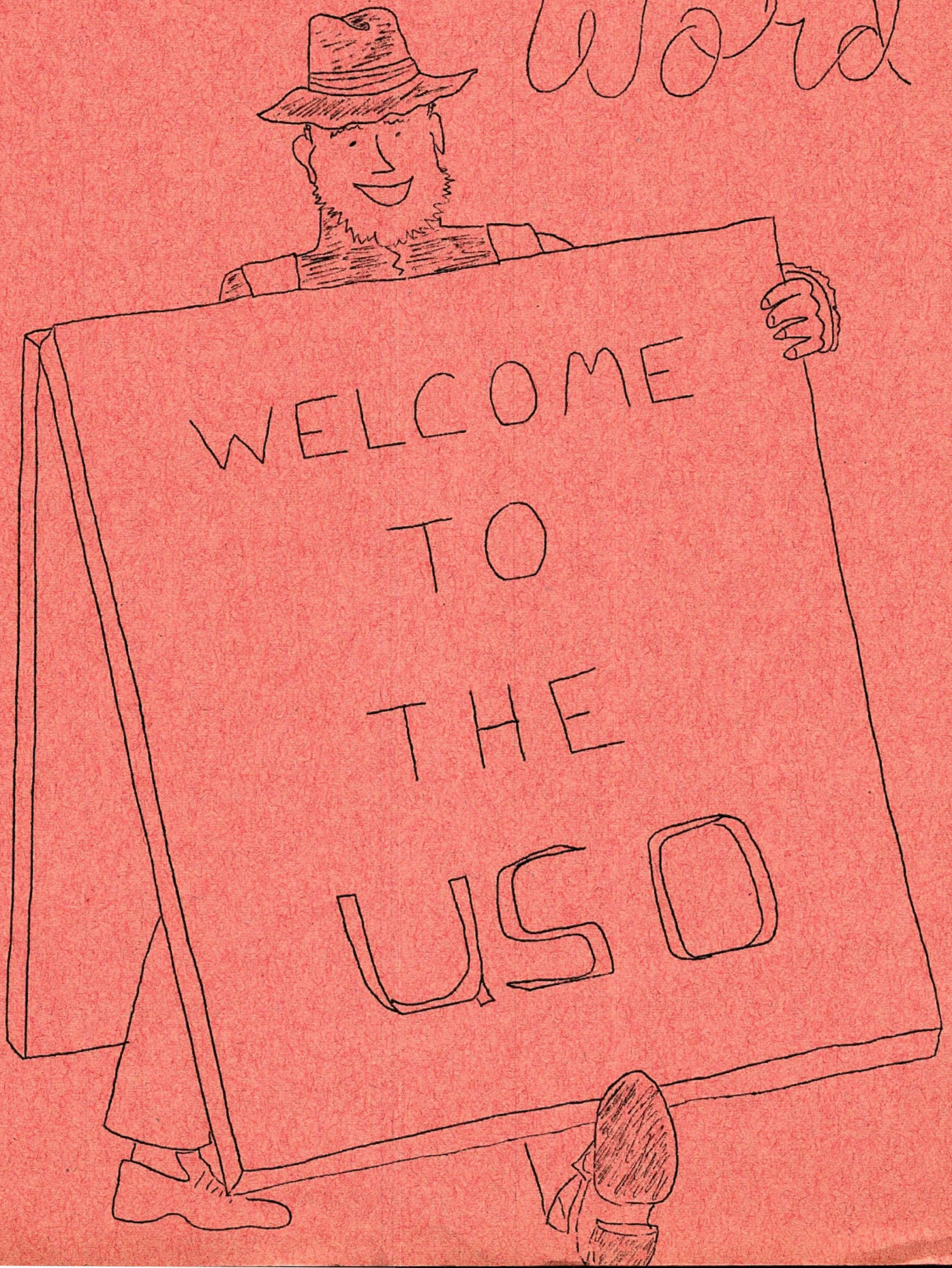


# The Last Word



# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DEN o o o o o

Your Editor, Karen Ward, asked me to write a few words for this issue and at the moment I wondered what I'd say. With a little thought, however, I find there are alot of things I would like to mention.

Space would not permit me to go into the "hats-off" department . . . there are just too many wonderful people to thank in this column. I could also get carried away saying "good-byes" to the many good friends who have been transferred from Tongue Point or discharged from the Navy lately. I could talk at length about the many wonderful new people we are meeting these days, but that would take too much room also.

I do feel that I would like to touch on one thing that has affected us all in the last few months . . the meny Staff changes that have been necessary. We seem to have had more than our share of sickness, death and misfortune among our regular Staff members, and it has been a constant concern of mine to try to replace the wonderful people who have had to leave the Club with people who will not only be able to carry the load of the "routine" work, but also have an interest in the objectives of USO. I feel we have been very fortunate in getting a new Staff which meets these qualifications very well.

As the new folks have joined the Staff, there of course, has had to be a "breaking in"peroid during which our service to you has perhaps been slower and maybe not as complete as it could have been. I would like to take this opportunity to express to each of you my sincere apperciation for your patience and understanding during these months of change.

We are still not completely squared away as far as the complete Staff is concerened(we still have three members of the Staff on sick leave) so I hope you will bear with us just a little longer.

Thanks again!

USO Manager  
Jim Taylor



Boy of  
the month

The boy of the month is, Allen Lawson. His friends call Him Al. He was born August 20, 1937 in Petoskey, Michigan. He had lived most his life in Boyne City, Michigan with his five sisters and his three brothers.

Al is 5'6" tall, he has brown eyes with a very pleasing personality. His favorite hobby is roller skating and he is very good at it too.

Some of Al's favorite songs are "Hot Diggety," "How can I tell Her", "Standing on the Corner" and "The wayward Wind". His favorite is anything his rother cocks.

Al has been in Astoria since December of 1954. We here at the USO have enjoyed Al's help very much. His pleasing personality helps bring a good atmosphere around here. Al is very co-operative in everything at the USO (including work.)

We are sorry to say Al is leaving us June 29th to go to San Francisco. I know we will miss his smiling face around here. I would like to say where ever you are we all wish you the best of luck and hope maybe you might drop in and see us all sometime.



THOUGHT JERKERS

The only safe place to fall asleep at the wheel is in a drive-in theater.

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"That man who lives for self alone lives for the meanest mortal known".

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It's what we learn after we know it all that really counts.

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NEW FACES \*\*\*\*\*

All over the place but we are glad to see them,, even if it does look like we've been bombarded.

But now getting down to brass tacks we would like to extend a heart warming welcome to all the new fellows and to say we are certainly glad to see them and hope that they decide to stay around and we will try our best to make them feel at home.

It's going to be ruff learning all your names at first so don't be surprised if you get called some strange things.

So once again we would like to say WELCOME and "see ya around fellows".

## Girl of the month

The girl of the month for May is Karen Ward. She was born in Ontario, Oregon on December 9, 37, which makes her 18 years old. She is 5'8" tall with brown hair and big brown eyes and a dash of freckles on her nose.

Her hobby is music, dancing, and boys. Her favorite food is fried rice and strawberry short cake.

She thinks the USO could have some changes made, and the boys will be all right after she gets to know them better.

Her favorite singer is Pat Boone and her favorite song, "I almost lost my mind".

Later on she would like to be a fashion designer or a music teacher and to attend College at Pacific University.



## SOME - THING EXTRA

Monday nite, June 18 was supposed to be regular band practice. It wasn't though! The stork club had a dinner party for their husbands. It turned out swell. The Junior Hostess baby-sat for them. Well, the baby sitters and babies attracted the guys. Every thing was okay uptill the party got rough. (Little Debbie burped all over Fran). Latter on Mrs. Antonich got it okayed that we could dance. To think of it we had just as big a crowd as we do on Thursday night. Every one enjoyed it. I hope the fellas off the D. E. Wedstone and the other newcomers got a good taste of our IIV BAND.



The annual season for picnic kapers opened on Sunday June 3, 1956. Typical Astoria weather put Banana peels on our feet and after starting at 1:30 PM the 15 of us slid into a photo finish at Ecola Park where the Sun and Blue skies awaited the triumphant winners of our trip.

The fun began before the official fire bug got started with his own little blow torch (a zippo lighter). When the fires were started shortly after arriving on the beach. They were as warm and zestful as the Boys and Girls for all the fun to be had before the tide made us retreat hastily some few short hours latter. Then, of course comes the coffee. (No coffee no picnic.) Two of the girls started to prepare the food for the frying pah to cook and the devil may care group to eat. After everyone had eaten his fill, the fun began anew. This time it lasted till a large wave sent everything sailing down the beach. Most of the equipment took off like those famous teddy bears and we went tumbling after to much splashing and laughter. The cameras though much the more worried about came off with the better of the deal as we were much wetter.

Through this calamity, though the spirits of the picnikers was just as high as before and after reaching the park a few adventurous souls took off on a hike to the point while less venture-some took pleasure from a volly ball game.

Returning to the USO somewhat damper and tired at 8:00 PM we dispursed to our various tastes. After, of course, bringing the equipment from the trunks of our cars. The few that signed up and didn't go were disappointed with themselves because they missed so much fun.

By the way, as "Smoky" says, "you who use fires to cook with be sure it is out befor you leave the picnic area and the fire we all remember will not be repeated!"

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The June 10th picnic was a dilly! The first thing that happened was that one certain girl took a short cut and ended up going the long way.

When we got there, all everyone could think of was to climb the mountain. Some did, some tried and some were caught in the rain half way up.

After a good soaking some of the boys got the chow a-cooking and the coffee was a welcomed guest. We all enjoyed it even if it rained. Everyone was tired and ready to leave by 7:30.



JUNE 17th

"It's around the next corner," "No, it's the next one, well, it's one of those soon." That was what I heard from Verna. I didn't say a word for I goofed the Sunday before. Hug Point was the destination and we got there just as the Sun came out. Every one set out playing volley ball and went swimming.

The food was delicious cause Al Lawson, Janis McGinn and Ed Swatzel made the salad which was plenty for all. Everything went fine until someone mentioned where were the paper cups. I was the only one who had a cup. (I had a coke on the way down!) Buck had worked so hard at making it. To top things off after eating, some of the guys found a jelly-fish. An after dinner thought we all sail. After all feet were taken care of we started for home, - - - - happy but tired.

JUNE 24th

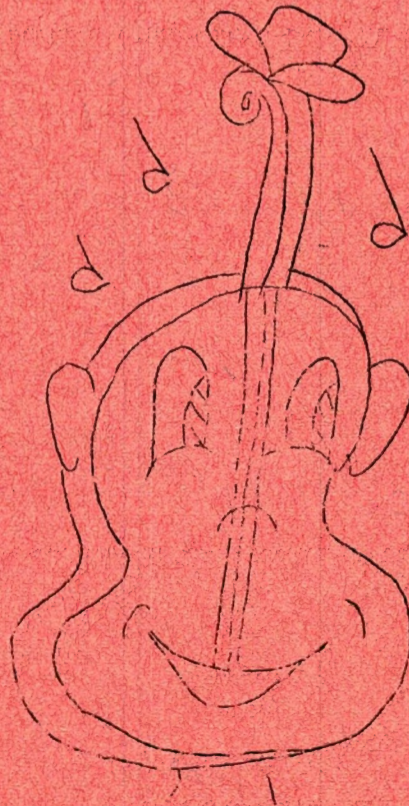
June 24th took the USO gang to Alrich Point. We had a stump that served both as table and fire place. It was a beautiful day for swimming and the water was really warm and nice. Between snakes and a wet volleyball, all had a good time. Except of course, the poor snake who was tossed around quite carelessly.

You will all be glad to hear that we did not forget the cups for the coffee cups this time. However as something must forever be mislaid we did lose the ax. One of the fellows came to the rescue though and all was well on the home front. As something unusual, we had a little target practice with a 22 pistol that happened to be there at the same time we were. We arrived back at the USO in time for the band and a good time was had by all.

# Dedications

Daddy'o	To Dale E. From US.
Long Tall Sally	To Karen From Fred.
To You My Love	To Cris From Al
My little Angel	To USO -
Sisters	To Cris and Karen From Karen and Cris
Transfusion	To Arne's car From Karen
Howcan I Tell Her	To Pogy From Tom
Church Bells May Ring	To Karen From Bob
Born to be With You	To Annie From Eddie
Standing on the Corner	To Al From Cris
Addie My Love	To Margaret From Al
I'll be Home	To Jerry and Al From Karen and Cris
It takes Two to Tango	To Janis M. From Buck
So Long It's Been Good to Know You	To Ken
Going Overseas	To Al From Tom
There's Been Some Changes Made	To Allen From Karen
To Pooped to Pop	To Virginia
I'll be Home	To Mary Hiland From L. T. Grey
Keep Off My Blue Suedes	To Ronnie From Karen
If	To Karen From Ted
You, You, You,	To Cris From Ted
Casual Look	To Sevilla From ??????

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Saturday, June 16, we were entertained by Gene Mora and his Southland Playboys. This band is made up of Gene Mora, Jammie Campbell, Gary Harris, Al Palmer, and "Shorty" Jones.

People from all over Clatsop County came to listen and dance to this lively band.

Ever since 1946, up to the present time, Gene has had bands and played in the Northwest states.

This band really gets the guys and gals out and dancing.

Good Luck to you and your boys, Gene.